

**Minutes of the
Idaho Nursery and Florist Advisory Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 11:46 a.m. November 4, 2004
Conference Call**

In Attendance:

Howard Hughes, Hughes Greenhouses, Post Falls, ID – Committee Chairman
Bill Dial, Custom Pools, Inc., Boise, ID – Committee Member
Kevin Allen, Pro-Care Landscape Services, Meridian, ID – Committee Member
David Jenkins, Jenkins & Son Christmas Trees, Inc, Sandpoint, ID – Committee Member
Matt Wolff, Baxter Wholesale Nursery, Emmett, ID – Committee Member
Dr. James E. Johnson, University of Idaho – Committee Member
Michael E. Cooper, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) – ISDA Representative

Unable to Attend:

Gary Paulson, Trail Creek Nursery, Victor, ID – Committee Member

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Old Business:

Donation to the Horticultural Research Institute: This effort is still in progress due to the structure of the Institute. It was difficult for the Department to determine which research fund to donate to. The committee clarified that it was just meant it to be a general donation to the Institute.

New Business:

Review of Mid-Term Reports:

- 1) NAC/ISDA 2003-7 \$13,008 “Using Degree-Day and Plant Phenological Models to Accurately Time Chemical Treatment of White Pine Weevil in Conifer Nurseries.” – John Lloyd, Robert Wilson & Edward Bechinski, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the mid-term report. The report was then approved by the full committee.
- 2) NAC/ISDA 2004-5 \$15,000 “Effect of Holding Treatments on the Health of Transplanted Conifers” - John Lloyd, Robert Tripepi, Jennifer Wood, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the mid-term report. The report was then approved by the full committee.
- 3) NAC/ISDA 2004-6 \$5,000 “Alternative Practices for Aphid & Honeydew Management on Landscape Trees” – John Lloyd & Steve Nittolo, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the mid-term report. The report was then approved by the full committee.
- 4) NAC/ISDA 2004-1 \$4,258 “Holding Bareroot Colorado Spruce Trees in a Gravel Bed” - Robert Tripepi & John Lloyd, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the mid-term report.
- 5) NAC/ISDA 2004-2 \$8,398 “Evaluating Pinyon Pine and Subalpine Fir Root Growth in a Gravel Bed Growing System” - Robert Tripepi, University. A motion was made and seconded to approve the mid-term report. The report was then approved by the full committee.

6) NAC/ISDA 2004-3 \$3,700 “Evaluation of Corkbark and Subalpine Fir for Their Potential as Ornamental Nursery Stock and Christmas Trees” - Dr. Dan Barney, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the mid-term report. The report was then approved by the full committee.

Outreach to the Florists Industry for Research and Education Opportunities

Chairman Hughes brought up the subject of setting aside a set amount of funds for education purposes to be granted to nursery and florists association(s) and other related formal groups. Motion was made by Dr. Johnson that the committee set aside \$10,000 for supporting the educational activities of floral and nursery associations with \$5,000 allocated to the Nursery Industry and \$5,000 allocated to the Florists Industry, with allocation to be made available on a calendar year basis. The motion was seconded by Dave Jenkins and approved by the committee. Chairman Hughes will send a letter to the Idaho Floral Association informing them of the availability of funds. Information will also be sent out through the media and annual license renewal.

Idaho Agricultural Statistics Report:

The report was reviewed and there was a comment noted about how the industry continues to grow overall. However, a decrease in the houseplant and cut flower sales was discussed that is primarily due to foreign imports. Cut flower production in the U.S. overall is declining while sales are increasing.

DDI system

Dr. Johnson of the U.I. informed the group of how U.I. and ISDA are working to set up a Distant Digital Identification system across the state and U.S. It was originally developed in Georgia and allows people to send digital images for diagnosis via E-mail. This will be implemented within the next year. U.I. is also working to set a user friendly web-based diagnostic system for pest identification by the general public. This should be a time savings for all involved.

Budget

Mike Cooper reported that there was \$120,135.73 in the research fund and that about \$20,000 of the fund is committed to support grants already approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.